



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/919,326 | 07/31/2001 | Robert W. Torres | 41250/WPC/P526 | 3726 |
| 23363 | 7590 | 01/10/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP | | | LUGO, CARLOS | |
| PO BOX 7068 | | | ART UNIT | |
| PASADENA, CA 91109-7068 | | | PAPER NUMBER | |

3676

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

09 919326

7-31-01

Robert Torres

DP-303536

| EXAMINER |
|----------|
|----------|

C. Lugo

| ART UNIT | PAPER |
|----------|-------|
|----------|-------|

3676

33

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

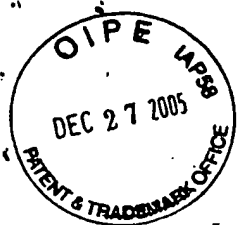
Commissioner for Patents

Application Number 09/919326

Art Unit 3676

The reply brief filed on December 27, 2005 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.


BRIAN E. GLESSNER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER



AF
SPU

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re application of |) | Examiner: Lugo, Carlos |
| |) | |
| TORRES ET AL. |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit: 3677 |
| Serial No.: 09/919,326 |) | |
| |) | |
| Filed: July 31, 2001 |) | |
| |) | Docket No.: DP-303536 |
| For: HIGH PRESSURE SEAL |) | |

APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 41.41 enclosed please find a Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer of October 28, 2005.

The Examiner has withdrawn the final rejection of Claims 5, 7, 8 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,792,416 to Moulin and now relies solely on the final rejection of Claims 5, 7-11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,540,450 to Hayashi et al.

The withdrawn Moulin '416 patent, which is in the electrical connector art, represents the precise problem of the prior art that the invention overcomes, namely, the possible wrinkling of the seal flange as explained in paragraphs in the Background of the Invention which is set forth from page 1, line 10 through page 3 line 28 of the patent application specification.

As stated in Appellant's Brief, the Hayashi '450 patent is more or less the same as the Moulin '416 patent that represents the precise problem of the prior art that the invention overcomes, namely, the possible wrinkling of the seal flange as explained in the Background of the Invention set forth from the patent application specification.

ENTER
Reply Brief
1-3-06
Carm